



August 19, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I'm writing to voice my support for the merger between T-Mobile USA and AT&T, which is on your 11-65 docket. Thank you for this chance to comment on this crucial merger.

The Midland Area Chamber of Commerce focuses on promoting and supporting our member businesses, as well as working to maintain a business-positive environment in our region. The needs of our businesses are constantly changing, and so we must also change if we are to respond to their needs.

Our work is important because a thriving business community benefits the entire area, so we focus on offering programs and resources that strengthen business. It has become clear that lack of widespread access to high-speed wireless broadband is a disadvantage in the economy of the digital age; unfortunately, access to this technology is not available in all areas of our region. Without this key resource, our community will fall behind.

Access to the next generation of high-speed wireless broadband will help us to attract new companies, and help existing local businesses thrive and grow. In order to compete today and into the future, on a local level beyond, businesses must be mobile and online. This technology spurs innovation, improves efficiency and productivity, and prompts job creation in every field. Luckily enough, increased access to the fastest and most reliable broadband available anywhere is exactly what this merger will bring to Michigan, including rural and underserved areas of our state.

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The possibilities wireless broadband introduces to our community, businesses, and residents are virtually limitless, with potential for exciting economic growth and development. This merger can help the Midland area achieve a better quality of life, and the merger can make this happen quickly and through private investment. I hope you'll agree that this transaction is an opportunity for my community and for communities like mine throughout the country. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. Allen".

Sid Allen
President & CEO
Midland Area Chamber of Commerce

CC:

Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn